



### **City of Joliet Questionnaire for 2023 District Candidates**

1. Please list your top three priorities / initiatives of action once elected.

- 1) Crime and public safety
- 2) A strategic plan that would restore a better quality of life throughout the city of Joliet including economic development that supports and assists small business owners throughout the entire city equitably.
- 3) Tiered water rates with the highest consumption paying the top tier. A plan needs to be put in place with 7, 000 residents on the verge of shut offs.

2. What type of working relationship do you plan to have with neighborhood groups?

I am committed to 4 town halls a year and being an active and engaged council member that will be constantly available to assist the neighborhood councils with city updates on a regular basis. They are a very important part of the community and provide a wealth of information to the residents they serve. I am committed to taking back their concerns to the mayor and council as a good partner should always do.

3. Please share your thoughts on possible economic development opportunities within your district.

The community would love to see family friendly economic development on the south side of Joliet including a Huge grocery store that would provide fresh , affordable healthy offerings . I am certain this is a possibility.

The residents want to see economic development beyond trucking and warehousing that will improve their quality of life.

4. What would you do to improve the overall safety of citizens in your district and in the City of Joliet?

Neighborhood oriented policing is a model that I feel we should bring back to the city of Joliet .

NOPT build trust in neighborhoods with the residents and officers get to know a neighborhood's particular issues and residents..

This can be achieved through state and federal funding and grants to assist in bringing more officers that will focus on designated high crime areas. District 5 in particular has at least 5 such areas I have identified through neighborhood councils and talking to many officers, community leaders, community based organizations & elected officials.

5. Do you feel there is adequate affordable housing options in your district and the city?

No. Absolutely not. We can work on this as a top priority.

6. Share with us your background and what unique qualities you believe you possess that stand out from the other candidates.

I am the only candidate sans the incumbent that has served on any level of government. My experience as a health equity navigator first with the Will County Health Department and currently with Holsten Human Capital Development has put me in the center of peoples issues and concerns all over Will County with a particular focus on Block 3 in the city of Jolet.

My grant partners are community based organizations with their pulse on what this community needs are, and we work on a daily basis to solve these issues one by one . We also survey the community regularly and I can tell you the top 5 concerns in our area. This career has prepared me well with a vast knowledge of services and how to get residents assistance without delay..

7. Have you previously or are you currently serving on a governing board such as a business, nonprofit, other government, or a religious or education organization?

I am currently elected since April 2021 as a Joliet Township Trustee.  
I will be resigning that position as a trustee after my City Council win.

8. If so, how would this experience prepare you for this role and if not, do you believe this lack of experience would be a concern for voters?

I have been an active and engaged part of the Township Board .

I have made many community partners over the last two years and learned a tremendous amount about government .

9. What level of interaction do you plan to hold with constituents and do you feel that you have the ability to be continually accessible?

I will be the most active and engaged council person. I am continuously available to the public via calls, email, texts and being out in the community on a daily basis . When you are a public servant you serve 24/7. I am an overachiever in every sense of the word.

10. Do you believe that the city is providing quality services such as water, garbage removal, sewer, snow removal, and infrastructure?

The water project is moving ahead at a good pace however, affordability is still a top priority for many residents. We also need a great deal of infrastructure improvements, in particular with our roadways.

I would also advocate for the city to assume responsibility for the entry corridors that look so terrible now. We can do this with a partnership between the state and city in exchange for some revenue if the city is maintaining the upkeep

11. How would you work to improve communication with the citizens of Joliet?

I work every day communicating with residents the various updates regarding the township programs and services.

I have given updates via every form of social media there is, neighborhood meetings and councils, senior events, social clubs, community based organizations, non profits. I feel there is room for improvement when the residents come to city council and they are disregarded and at times disrespected.

Residents need to see change and feel the council and Mayor is listening to them . I have also seen the ordinance that was created for residents to use their 4 minute time and I am sure that does not supersede your first amendment rights to freedom of speech. This is the reason the council meetings are so poorly attended.

12. What strategic alliances can be explored and/or better utilized? Do you feel the city has a solid relationship with county, state, and federal elected officials? Please explain why or why not and how that can be improved.?

There is room for improvement at every level. This is something I have worked on as a Joliet Township Trustee . Creating alliances at every level of government to work together and better serve our great city is vital.

Joliet Township Government worked with the officials at a state level to apply for a 1.9 Million dollar violence prevention grant that we then received . Bringing more services by working in partnership with other agencies and officials at every level of government is a way to keep tax dollars low and bring vital community services that can be transformational in the city Joliet. This can be achieved at state and federal levels .

13. Do you have any conflicts of interest that would prevent you from participating in council business?

No

14. How do we maintain and enhance Joliet's position as a complete community with a thriving commercial and retail sector, highly ranked schools, diverse workforce, affordable housing, vibrant and walkable neighborhoods, and plenty of opportunities for recreation?

We need a comprehensive plan that brings all stakeholders to the table.

Once we have the plan we need to implement it and make sure we elect leaders that will see the plan through . We need to retain and attract young professionals entering the workforce by revitalizing the downtown area.

We need to make sure that all areas of the downtown are walkable and accessible for everyone.

Small businesses should be our focus.

I feel we should be filling our town with a combination of professional and tech jobs, additionally including diverse and family friendly community appropriate businesses ..